

Message Text

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45

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 AID-05

PC-01 IO-10 OMB-01 /073 W

----- 118191

R 071413Z AUG 75

FM AMEMBASSY LIMA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6224

INFO AMCONSUL GUAYAQUIL

AMEMBASSY QUITO

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE LIMA 6357

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, PE

SUBJECT: COAP CHIEF GRAHAM HURTADO SURFACES IN LIMA

1. ON AUGUST 5 AT ABOUT 9 PM, COAP CHIEF JOSE GRAHAM HURTADO EMERGED FROM LIMA'S GOVERNMENT PALACE AND CATEGORICALLY DENIED NEWS STORIES EMANATING FROM GUAYAQUIL THAT HE HAD SOUGHT POLITICAL ASYLUM IN ECUADOR. THE ASYLUM STORY WAS APPARENTLY FIRST CARRIED BY THE GUAYAQUIL DAILY "EL UNIVERSO."

2. GRAHAM, SPEAKING PUBLICLY FOR THE FIRST TIME IN MORE THAN A MONTH, TOLD REPORTERS THAT HE DIDN'T KNOW "WHETHER TO LAUGH OR BE INDIGNANT, BECAUSE THIS IS THE WORK OF THE COUNTERREVOLUTION." HE WENT ON TO SAY THAT "UPI HAS LAUNCHED THIS STORY THROUGHOUT THE WORLD WITHOUT EVEN CONFIRMING IF I WAS (IN ECUADOR)."

3. IN RESPONSE TO A REPORTER'S QUESTION, GRAHAM ALSO SAID, "IT'S LOGICAL THAT WHEN WE HAVE TAKEN A STEP LIKE THE NATIONALIZATION OF MARCONA, (THE IMPERIALISTS AND THE OLIGARCHS) HAVE STUCK TOGETHER AND HAVE CREATED THIS FALSE STORY, CAUSING HARM TO THE PERUVIAN PEOPLE AND THEIR REVOLUTION."

4. COMMENT: WE CONTINUE TO THINK THAT GRAHAM IS POLITICALLY
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DOWN, BUT PERHAPS NOT YET OUT. WHILE GRAHAM CLAIMS

TO HAVE BEEN IN LIMA ALL ALONG, THE MEXICAN AMBASSADOR HAS
TOLD EMBOFFS THAT HE UNDERSTANDS HE WAS IN FACT SEEN IN GUAYA-
QUIL LAST WEEK. IN ANY CASE, THE ASYLUM STORY HAS FORCED THE
GOP AND GRAHAM TO PRESENT A UNITED FRONT. IT HAS ALSO FURNISHED
AN OPPORTUNITY TO LASH OUT AT THE US PRESS SERVICES AND MARCONA.
DEAN

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